

# RCRA INSPECTION REPORT

**TYPE OF FACILITY****TYPE OF INSPECTION**

**NON-REGULATED STATUS**

## PART 4

**PART B PERMIT APPLICATION**

## ENFORCEMENT

### ORDERS ISSUED

**TSD FACILITY ACTIVITY SUMMARY**EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.

**Abstract**

**288563**

**RECEIVED**

28 DEC 1990

~~IEPA/DLPC~~

## SUMMARY OF APPARENT VIOLATIONS

**OWNER**

**OPERATOR**

Name PVS CHEMICALS, INC	Name PVS CHEMICALS
Address 1100 HARBOR AVE	Address 12260 S. CARONDALET
City DETROIT	City CHICAGO
State MI Zip 48213	State IL Zip 60633
Phone # 313/921-9200	Phone # 312/933-8800

**PERSON(S) INTERVIEWED**

***TITLE***

**PHONE #**[illegible]**INSPECTION PARTICIPANT(S)****AGENCY/TITLE****PHONE #**

RICHARD FINLEY	IEPA / EPS3	708/531-5911

**PREPARED BY**

**AGENCY/TITLE****PHONE #**

RICH FINLEY	IEPA/ EPS3	708/531-5911
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## NARRATIVE

PVS Chemical Company (Illinois) is a manufacturer of sulfuric acid. They also produce Aluminum Chloride which is used in deodorants, antacids, photography and water treatment; Sodium Bisulfite which is intentionally manufactured and also a by-product of the air emission scrubbers; Sodium Thiosulfate which is bisulfite with sulfur added; Sulfan which is liquid sulfuric acid and used in soaps, and Oleum which is sulfuric acid with a pH of almost 0.

PVS purchased this facility from Allied Chemical Corporation on October 13, 1981. In 1980 Allied submitted a Part A application for RCRA Interim Status, claiming as its hazardous waste activities, the storage of hazardous wastes in containers, tanks and surface impoundments, and treatment in tanks. It has been since determined that all of the processes designated in the Part A Application except the surface impoundment were not regulated under RCRA.

With respect to the surface impoundment, the impoundment was utilized to hold wastes that were hazardous by characteristic of corrosivity during the period of its ownership by Allied Chemical Corporation (to October 13, 1981) and for some period during its subsequent ownership by PVS Chemicals. At some time prior to August 9, 1982, PVS Chemicals changed its operation by neutralizing the acidic waste prior to discharge into the impoundments. After that operational change, the facility became only a generator of hazardous wastes. However, because the surface impoundments were never closed under RCRA, PVS Chemicals remained subject to all Interim Status Standards pertaining to surface impoundments.

PVS Chemicals closure plan for the surface impoundments was approved on March 6, 1988. The facility also requested the withdrawal of its Part A. Certification of the closure of the impoundment was received on August 3, 1988 and a closure inspection conducted on August 11, 1988, revealed that the closure activity was completed in accordance with the approved closure plan dated January 4, 1986. On October 1, 1990, the Agency notified PVS that it had determined that closure of the hazardous waste surface impoundment had apparently met the requirements of 35 IL Adm. Code, Part 725 and in addition, the Agency had withdrawn PVS Chemical's Part A.

**Non-hazardous wastes generated by PVS Chemicals are as follows:**

Waste sodium thiosulfate filter cake from 2 filter presses located in the sulfuric department. (Sulfuric Acid Production) These filter presses are part of the production process, filtering iron sulfate from the corrosion of equipment (pipes/tanks) so that the sulfuric acid product has a clear, pure appearance.

Rate of Generation is approximately 1 cu/yd per month. Waste is hauled to CID #2 where it is mixed with daily refuse. Shipment frequency is variable. Amount on site at the time of inspection is less than 2 gallons.

Aluminum chloride sludge from filter press in aluminum chloride production to remove iron, activated carbon and diatomaceous earth from the aluminum chloride product.

Rate of Generation is variable. Waste is hauled to CID #2 where it is co-disposed. Shipment frequency is variable. Amount on site at the time of inspection is less than 3 cu. yds.

Iron hydroxide sludge from removal of sludge from surface impoundments. Low pH acidified waters from the sulfuric and aluminum chloride processes are pumped through pipelines to a 2,000 gallon wastewater pre-treatment tank where it is neutralized. The wastewater is then gravity fed into the north impoundment. The liquid portion is checked for MWRD specifications and then discharged into the MWRD system. The solid portion is backhoed out of the impoundment onto a concrete pad for drying.

Rate of Generation is approximately 3 cu. yds. per year. Waste is hauled to CID #2 where it is mixed with daily refuse. Shipment frequency varies. Amount on site at the time of inspection is approximately 10 cu. yds.

Neutralized filter cartridges from sulfuric acid production. Cartridges are generated when they are placed in a 55 gallon container and neutralized in a caustic solution. The cartridges were being disposed of as a general refuse. However facility operators were advised and have agreed to obtain a permit to handle the cartridges as a special waste.

Rate of Generation is approximately 250 per year.

RELEVANT NOTES OR OBSERVATIONS

The following processes were withdrawn by the Agency on October 1, 1990:

S01 - Container storage

S02 - Tank storage

T04 - Filter cartridge neutralization pail

PVS Chemical appears to be operating as a non-handler of hazardous wastes. Facility operators have been given a facility notification amendment or withdrawal request form.

LIST OF VIOLATIONS:

Section #:809.301

Description: Failure to manifest waste  
filter cartridges as a special  
waste.

RF:dfa:1847D

